Aug. 26, 1940

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Chap.6 Sec. 1-Liberty Church - Greenbank

Records of Session and Church of the "Head of Greenbrier".

Bath County, Virginia. June 20, 1820.

Union Church of Christ in Bath County, Virginia, now Pocahontas, convened at the house of Mr. Joseph Wooddell, to consult the interest of the church and to revive it, if thought adviseable. Present of the former members of the church: Daniel Kerr, James Cooper, Jacob Gillispie, Nancy Kerr, Nancy Cooper and Martha Gilliapie.

Upon request of Mr. Joseph Wooddell, he was by their unanimous vote, received again to full communion: Mr. Jos. Wooddell and Mr. Daniel Kerr, and they consented to act still in their former capacity of ruling Elders.

July 16, 1820

Mrs Elizabeth Hudson was received into full communion and Mr. James Wooddell and Mr. Jacob Burner were received to occasional communion.

June 30, 1821

Robert Kerr and Elizabeth Kerr received to full communion and Andrew Lines to occasional.

Sept. 2, 1822

Mrs Sarah Yeager and Mrs. Priscilla Wooddell received into full communion and Mrs. Anna Curry and Miss Edith Curry to occasional communion. Mr. Benj. Tallman was unanimously elected a ruling Elder.

Sept. 8, 1822

The preceeding are the records of the session during

the labors of the Rev. Aretas Loomis.

Besides the proceedings, there are recorded the following baptisims:

June 13, 1819 -- John Daniel, son of Thomas Bradshaw

June 17, 1819 -- Eliza, daughter of James Cooper

June 20, 1819 -- Polly Kirkpatrick, daughter of Robert Kerr

Dec. 5, 1819 -- Rachel Primrose, daughter of Jacob Gillispie

Besides these there were nine other infant baptisms in 1820. There is a note in the Session Book; This is the only record of this church that can be found from the year 1822-1831.

Year of 1832.

CHURCH REGISTER

Ruling Elders

(Joseph Wooddell
(Daniel Kerr
(Benj. Tallman
(Boon Tallman
(A. G. Mathews
(Robert D. McCutcheon

Members who had belonged to the church up to this time:

James Cooper
Nancy Cooper
John Slavens
Richard Hudson
Nancy Hudson
John Yeager
Thomas Bradshaw
Nancy Bradshaw
Jane Gammon
Robert Kerr
Eliza Ann Kerr
William Slavens
Margaret Slavens
Robert D. McCutcheon
Elizabeth McCutcheon
Margaret Ruckman
Hugh McLaughlin
Andrew G. Mathews
Boon Tallman

Mrs. Mary Tallman
Wm. Givens
Mrs. Givens
Mary Mathews
Solomon Conrad
Mrs. Conrad
Wm. Arbogast
Jane Arbogast
Mrs. Jane Bysart
Mrs. Ann Bruffey
James H. Cooper
Polly Kerr
Wm. Gibson
Isiabella Gibson
Mahala McElwee
James A. Price
Margaret D. Price
Mrs. Ann Sharp

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Miss Shirat
John White
Mrs. White
Edward Irvine
Mrs. Irvine
Mr. Guy
Mrs. Gay
Andrew A. Gatewood
Henry H. Moffett
Paul McNeel
Ophelia Beal
Robert Curry
John McElwee
John Moore
Benj. F. Irvine
James M. Gillispie
James T. Hartman
James A. Irvin
John T. Cooper
Marcus Williams
John Gifford
Adam Kerr
Nancy McGloughlin
Elizabeth D. Potts
Jane McGloughlin
Margaret Hartman
Margaret Sharp
Hezziah Hudson
Mary A. Irvin
Susan Nottingham
Jane Sheets

Nancy Hartman
Rachel Dysart
Delila Kimbrenner
Mary Kimbrenner
William Dysart
John Potts
Elizabeth Potts
Samuel Potts
Jane Potts
Abraham Hull, a colored man

I have spelled these names exactly as they were spelled on the old Session Book. Of course some of these had died and some had moved to other churches.

In the old Session Book is the following note:

In explanation of the foregoing records, it is proper to remark that they are put down as they were found on several pieces of loose paper. Some meetings of the session perhaps were never recorded, or were lost, so that nothing definitely is known on the subject. Those that are recorded seem to have been made during the labors of Rev. Aretas Loomis, James Kerr and John S. Blain.

It seems that Mr. Loomis was not in the habit of inviting the members of other churches to commune unless they first came before the session and stood an examination.

When this was done, they were received to "occasional communion". This serves to explain why some were received in this way and not so the members of the church.

Joseph Brown, transcriber.

Sept. 22, 1844

The session convened at Deer Creek Union Church and was opened in prayer by Rev. Thomas.

Aug. 11, 1850

Elected Ruling Elders: Thomas Kerr, David W. Kerr, Robert D. McCutcheon.

March 16, 1851

Session convened at Mrs. Arbogast's and was opened with prayer by the Rev. L. Emerson. Session resolved that Presbytery be invited to hold its fall session at the new church that is now in its building.

June 15, 1851

Session convened at the new church that is now in building.

Nov. 4, 1855

Session opened by Rev. E. Thomas. Mr. Thomas advised the session that as the congregation has no pastor or stated supply, that they have prayer meeting and Sabbath school each Sabbath day.

Oct. 30, 1858

First meeting of Greenbrier Presbytery in this place with this congregation.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Aug. 21, 1859

A number of the members of Liberty Church, living near Baxter Church petitioned Greenbrier Presbytery last spring to be organized into a church at Baxter and Presbytery granted their request and made the necessary arrangements for the organization of the church at Baxter. The session transferred the following members from Liberty Church to be organized into a church at Baxter:

Robert D. McCutcheon) Elders
Robert Curry)

Elizabeth McCutcheon
Nancy McGloughlin
Samuel H. McCUtcheon
Christiana Jane McCutcheon
Elizabeth E. Curry
Caroline R. Nottingham
Nancy C. McCutcheon
Matilda G. Craig
Caroline E. Warwick
John D. McCutcheon
Wm. A. G. McCutcheon
Robert L. McCutcheon
Elizabeth E. McCutcheon
Mary Jane McGloughlin

Dec. 4, 1859

A collection was taken for domestic missions amounting to $3.10.

May 21, 1861

A collection was taken for the Board of Education amounting to $2.45.

June 22, 1862

A collection was taken for missions among the Southern Indians amounting to $3.50.

Oct. 26, 1862

A collection was taken up to aid the Confederate

Bible Society amounting to $4.70.

From 1862 to 1866 there is no record.

November 1871

Elders elected: Peter H. Slaven, Wm. L. Brown, and Jacob Bible.

Aug. 18, 1872

A public collection was taken up today for the cause of sustentation, amounting to $4.50

Mar. 30, 1873

A public collection was taken up today for the cause of Foreign missions, amounting to $2.35.

July 19, 1874

A Sacramental meeting was held in Liberty Church today by the pastor and the Revs. Messrs. Laird and Price from the Lexington Presbytery.

Oct 10, 1875

It was reported that the salary to the pastor was all paid.

1st Sabbath in Sept. 1888

Session met and elected trustees for the church, the former trustees having died. The following were elected: J. P. Moomau, Geo. W. Kerr, Uriah Hevener, Chas. A. Lightner and Wm. L. Brown.

Aug. 14, 1891

Dr. J. P. Moomau and Dr. C. S. Austin were unanimously elected Ruling Elders.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

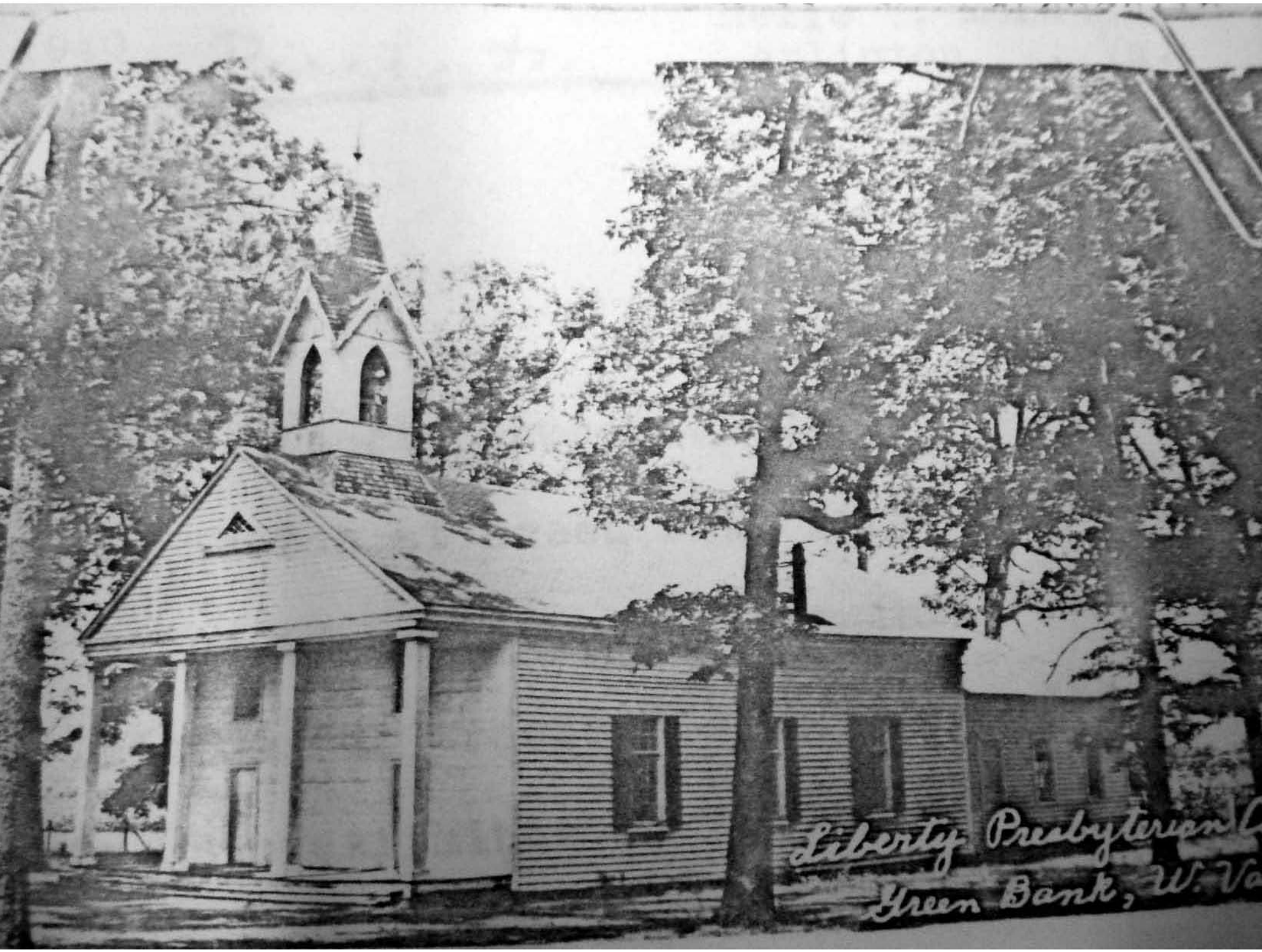
CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1896.

W. L. Brown)
S. B. Hannsh) Elders
J. P. Moomau)
C. S. Austin)

Geo. W. Kerr) Deacons
C. A. Lightner)

Phoebe Phillips
Mary A. Wooddell
Jane E. Curry
Polly K. Ervin
Minerva J. Kerr
Addie E. Brown
Preston C. Ervin
Nannie J. Moomau
Uriah Hevener
James D. Kerr
Lizzie Hannah
Flora C. Moomau
Wm. B. Wooddell
Mary M. Moomau
Ida L. Brown
Mary M. Brown
M. Grace Hevener
Vesta Kerr
John W. Logan
Mattie Hevener
Mrs. C. A. Lightner
Mrs. Jane Warwick
Mrs. Jno. Ralston
Nannie Warwick
Mary Warwick
Laban H. Wilfong
Mary E. Wilfong
Lillian E. Moomau
Rube M. Ralston
Mary D. Kerr
Odessa R. Kerr
Samuel J. Sutton
Maggie V. Kerr
Ruberta Gum
Laura Kerr
John R. Hevener
M. B. Trainer
Lila Trainer
Nannie Ray
Geo. Hannah
Blanche Gum

Zack Nottingham
Mrs. Zack Nottingham
Robt. W. Gum
Jno. R. Gum
Henry S. Cooper
Austin Lightner
Wm. H. Gum
Lucy C. Moomau
Mattie M. Austin
Boon Moomau
J. W. H. Siple
Anna M. Lightner
Grace M. Ralston
Anna Gum
Isabel Brown
Anna L. Hannah
Maggie L. Gum
David Bright
Cora Ervin
Mary Conrad
Cora Conrad
Maggie Gum
Sarah Brown
W. R. Brown
Wash Ray
J. P. Hamilton
Robt. J. Brown
Wallace Sutton
Henry Brown
Robt. L. Brown
Tilden Brown
Samuel Hannah
Hevener Hannah
Pearl L. Brown
Marian Ray
Minnie Ray
O. W. Ruckman
Hiram Wooddell
Clawdie J. W. Brown
Mrs. Hulda Wooddell
Mrs. Marian Ray
Mrs. Nancy Galford
Allen Galford
Mrs. Robt. J. Brown
Thos. S. Patterson
Maggie L. Ervin
Pattie Hannah


Liberty Presbyterian
Green Bank, W. Va

Pocahontas Co.

LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - Greenbank, W. Va.

Organized 1804 - Church built in 1851.

Chapter 6 - Section 1

Liberty Church (1804)

Liberty Church at Greenbank, first known as " Head of Greenbrier" (then in Bath County, Virginia) was organized in 1804. This church traces its origin to the labors of Aretas Loomis, pioneer minister in the Tygart's Valley region, and there is a record of the Rev. John McCue's having visited "Head of Greenbrier" during his ministry in the Lewisburg and Union Churches in 1783-1791.

The new church was built and dedicated Oct. 11, 1851. Dedication sermon was preached by the Rev. B. M. Smith, from the 122 Psalm and first verse.

There is no record of regular pastorate in Liberty Church before 1860, but sessional records indicate occasional services by visiting ministers, among whom are named: Rev. L. Emerson, Rev. Calvin Barr, Rev. Henry Brown, Rev. M. D. Dunlap, Rev. M. L. Lacy and Rev. C. C. See.

Roll of ministers of Liberty Church:

R. P. Kennedy	1860-1866
David Sydenstricker	1872-1873
A. H. Hamilton	1874-1875
J. H. McCown	1878-1871
Wm. T. Price	1888-1890
B. A. Pendleton (Supply)	1891
John V. McCall (Supply)	1892
E. F. Alexander	1893-1895
R. M. Caldwell	1896-1899
Henry W. McLaughlin	1900-1903

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ASA Watkins (Supply)	1903-1904
R. E. Fultz	1904-1906
W. W. Bain	1907-1910
J. S. Kennison	1910-1913
L. H. Lancaster (Supply)	1913-1914
H. H. Leach (Supply)	1915
L. A. Kelly	1916-1917
J. M. Sydenstricker (Supply)	1918
D. McD. Monroe	1919-1924
George W. Mauze (Supply)	1926-1928
D. McD. Monroe	1919-1937
A. B. Williford	1938-present

"Head of Greenbrier" was one of the original churches of the Greenbrier Presbytery at the time of the Presbytery's organization in 1838, and the church was organized by Lexington Presbytery. This old church has a fine record of service through the years.

From: The Church on the Western Waters - Courtney